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January 9, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1634

Re:

U.S. Divisional Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 09/697,079; Filed: October 27, 2000

For: Methods and Compositions for Cloning Nucleic Acid

Molecules

Inventors:

Fox et al.

Our Ref:

0942.4460002/BJD/LAV

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. PTO Fee Transmittal (PTO/SB/17);
- 2. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the appropriate fees;
- 3. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a);
- 4. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
- 5. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents January 9, 2004 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Brian J. Del Buono Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 42,473

BJD/LAV/nef Enclosures

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